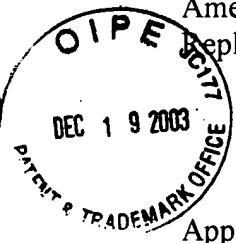


Application No. 10/005,759
Amendment Transmittal Letter dated December 19, 2003
Amendment dated December 19, 2003
Reply to Office Action mailed September 30, 2003

3623
JF



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/005,759 Confirmation No. 7327
Applicant : Michael P. MILLER et al.
Filed : December 17, 2001
TC/A.U. : 3623
Examiner : Michael C. Heck
Title : ACCELERATED PROCESS IMPROVEMENT FRAMEWORK
Docket No. : 86769-0006
Customer No. : 24633

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DEC 30 2003

GROUP 3600

Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing is an Amendment in response to the Final Office Action mailed September 30, 2003, in the above-identified application.

Applicant petitions for an extension of time, the fees for which are set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a), for the total number of months checked below:

Total Months <u>Requested</u>	Fee for <u>Extension of Time</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> one month	\$ 110.00
<input type="checkbox"/> two months	\$ 410.00
<input type="checkbox"/> three months	\$ 930.00

Extension of time fee due with this request: \$ 110.00

If an additional extension of time is required, please consider this a Petition therefor.

C

Application No. 10/005,759

Amendment Transmittal Letter dated December 19, 2003

Amendment dated December 19, 2003

Reply to Office Action mailed September 30, 2003

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
TOTAL	26	MINUS	50	= 0	x 18 =	\$ 0.00
INDEP.	3	MINUS	3	= 0	x 84 =	\$ 0.00
						TOTAL \$ 0.00

- No additional fee is required.
- Attached is _____ in the amount of _____ for the one-month extension of time.
- Please charge my Deposit Account No. 50-1349 the amount of \$ _____.
- The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1349.
- Any filing fees under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 for the presentation of extra claims.
- Any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. §1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

HOGAN & HARTSON LLP

Dated: December 19, 2003

HOGAN & HARTSON LLP

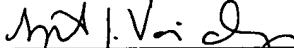
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Customer No. 24633

By: 

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Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

PATENT APPLICATION FEE DETERMINATION RECORD Substitute for Form PTO-875			Application or Docket Number
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CLAIMS AS FILED – PART I

		(Column 1)	(Column 2)
FOR	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	
BASIC FEE (37 CFR 1.16(a))			
TOTAL CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(c))	minus 20 =	*	
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(b))	minus 20 =	*	
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM PRESENT		(37 CFR 1.16(d))	

* If the difference in column 1 is less than zero, enter "0" in column 2.

SMALL ENTITY

RATE	FEES
	\$ _____
X \$ _____ =	
X \$ _____ =	
+ \$ _____ =	
TOTAL	

**OTHER THAN
SMALL ENTITY**

RATE	FEES
	\$ _____
X \$ _____ =	
X \$ _____ =	
+ \$ _____ =	
TOTAL	

CLAIMS AS AMENDED – PART II

AF

AMENDMENT		CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA	(Column 1) (Column 2) (Column 3)		
						AMENDMENT A	AMENDMENT B	AMENDMENT C
Total (37 CFR 1.16(c))	17	Minus	** 81	= 0				
Independent (37 CFR 1.16(b))	3	Minus	*** 6	= 0				
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(d))								

SMALL ENTITY

RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
X \$ _____ =	
X \$ _____ =	
+ \$ _____ =	
TOTAL ADD'L FEE	

**OTHER THAN
SMALL ENTITY**

RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
X \$ _____ =	
X \$ _____ =	
+ \$ _____ =	
TOTAL ADD'L FEE	

AMENDMENT		CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA	(Column 1) (Column 2) (Column 3)		
						AMENDMENT A	AMENDMENT B	AMENDMENT C
Total (37 CFR 1.16(c))	*	Minus	**	=				
Independent (37 CFR 1.16(b))	*	Minus	***	=				
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(d))								

RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
X \$ _____ =	
X \$ _____ =	
+ \$ _____ =	
TOTAL ADD'L FEE	

RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
X \$ _____ =	
X \$ _____ =	
+ \$ _____ =	
TOTAL ADD'L FEE	

AMENDMENT		CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA	(Column 1) (Column 2) (Column 3)		
						AMENDMENT A	AMENDMENT B	AMENDMENT C
Total (37 CFR 1.16(c))	*	Minus	**	=				
Independent (37 CFR 1.16(b))	*	Minus	***	=				
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM (37 CFR 1.16(d))								

RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
X \$ _____ =	
X \$ _____ =	
+ \$ _____ =	
TOTAL ADD'L FEE	

RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
X \$ _____ =	
X \$ _____ =	
+ \$ _____ =	
TOTAL ADD'L FEE	

* If the entry in column 1 is less than the entry in column 2, write "0" in column 3.

** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, enter "20".

*** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, enter "3".

The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found in the appropriate box in column 1.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.16. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

C